

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace ¶¶ [0017]-[0018] with the following:

[0017] Hydraulic cylinder 1 comprises a cylinder 3 extending in the cross direction of the vehicle, a piston rod 4 arranged through cylinder 3 and linked to the rack of rack-and-pinion 102, and a piston 5 slidably-~~arrange~~ arranged in cylinder 3 and fixed to piston rod 4. First and second hydraulic chambers 6, 7 are defined in cylinder 3 by piston 5.

[0018] Hydraulic circuit 2 comprises a pair of first and second passages 8, 9 each having one end ~~ends~~-connected to hydraulic chambers 6, 7, a reversible-type pump or hydraulic pump ~~connected~~ is connected to the other ends of passages 8, 9 and comprising pump motor 10 rotated in the normal or reverse direction by control current out of ECU 105 and an oil pump 11, first and second drain passages 13, 14 branched off from first and second passages 8, 9 and each having a downstream end communicating with a reservoir 12 which is in the atmospheric condition, a pair of passage switching valves 15, 16 arranged at the branch points of discharge or drain passages 13, 14 from first and second passages 8, 9 and actuated in accordance with a differential pressure between pump-side passage portions 8a, 9a and cylinder-side passage portions 8b, 9b of first and second passages 8, 9, and first and second reservoirs 19, 20 for selectively supplying compensating hydraulic fluid to both sides of oil pump 11 through check valves 17, 18 provided to pump-side portions 8a, 9a.

Please replace ¶ [0022] with the following:

[0022] Valve hole 23 has an inner diameter reduced gradually stepwise toward a front end 23a. An end of ~~pump-side-pump-side~~ pump-side passage portion 8a opens to a small-diameter upper portion close to front end 23a of valve hole 23, whereas an end of cylinder-side passage portion 8b opens to a roughly center portion of valve hole 23. Moreover, an end of first discharge passage 13 opens to a lower portion of valve hole 23. Cap 24 is screwed into a maximum-diameter outer end portion of valve hole 23 through a seal ring.

Please replace ¶ [0026] with the following:

[0026] A first annular chamber 25d and a second annular chamber 25e are defined in valve body 25 by first and second valve portions 27, 28 ~~and second valve portion 28~~ and slide portion 29. First annular chamber 25d provides communication between first and second passage holes 25a, 25b as required, whereas second annular chamber 25e provides communication between first annular chamber 25d and third passage hole 25c.